• COLORADO RIVER •

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXV FEBRUARY, 1958 NUMBER 2

District Board Authorizes Sale of $18,000,000 in Bonds

The Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District on February 11 authorized the sale of $18,000,000 in Waterworks Bonds, Series II, to a syndicate headed by Bankers Trust Company and Harris Trust Company at a net interest rate of 2.387 per cent.

The successful bid, which was one of four opened by the District Board at a public session, offered a gross interest rate of 2.40 per cent with a premium of $14,400, producing the net interest rate of 2.387 per cent, according to District Controller Albert W. McKinlay.

Money derived from the sale of the bonds will be used to help carry forward the District's $200 million expansion program to bring the Colorado River Aqueduct to its full, ultimate capacity, it was stated by Mr. McKinlay.

The $18 million bond issue consists of 18,000 coupon bonds in the denomination of $1000 each, dated March 1, 1958. They will mature in consecutive numerical order in the amount of $1,500,000 on March 1 of each of the years 1959 to 1970, inclusive.

"This is the second issue of such short-term bonds to be sold by the Metropolitan Water District under the provisions of Proposition "W" which was approved by the voters at the June 5, 1956 election," Mr. McKinlay pointed out.

Controller McKinlay emphasized that while these bonds are General Obligation Bonds of the District, supported by all of its resources, the interest and principal of the bonds will be repaid primarily from revenues and annexation fees which are pledged to the District and will be paid into its treasury during the next 25 to 30 years. Because of these anticipated revenues no increase in taxes for the financing of these bonds is contemplated. (See photo on Page Four).

Shown above is work in progress on the Culver City Lateral. Workmen are lowering a 48-inch precast concrete pipe section into place on Slauson Avenue near Overhill Drive. This line, which will serve Culver City and adjacent areas, is scheduled for completion on July 31, 1958.

Unity of Action Pledged by Speakers At Aqueduct Report of Progress Meeting

A report of progress being made to bring the Colorado River Aqueduct to its full ultimate delivery capacity of more than one billion gallons of water a day and a plea for a united Southern California effort to develop future water supplies were featured at a luncheon meeting at the Statler Hotel in Los Angeles on February 20th.

More than 400 civic and business leaders from all over the District, including 28 Mayors, members of Boards of Supervisors, City Councilmen, Chambers of Commerce executives, State Senators and Assemblymen and other prominent Southland figures were in attendance at the luncheon.

Mr. Preston Hotchkis, who served as General Chairman of the Southland

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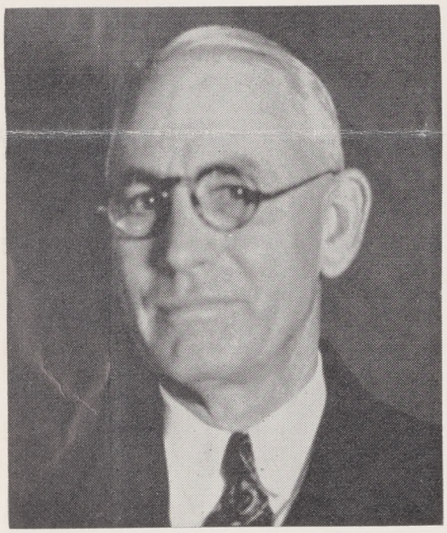

Former Director William M. Cook

Former Director Cook Is Called by Death

William M. Cook, who represented the City of Long Beach on the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors from January 27, 1933 to April 30, 1943, passed away on February 24 at his home in Arcadia.

Mr. Cook was born in Fredonia, Kansas in 1880. He came to California at an early age and attended grammar school and high schools in Los Angeles. He worked in the Union Bank of Savings in Los Angeles for several years prior to moving to Long Beach.

In 1903 Mr. Cook became Chief Accountant of the Bank of Long Beach (now the Security-First National Bank). He remained with the bank until 1924, serving as Cashier and Vice President. From 1936 to 1953 he was Seretary-Treasurer of Graham Brothers Inc. and served on its board of diretors up to the time of his death.

On the District Board of Directors, Mr. Cook served on the Organization, Highways and Land Committees, and on several other important special committees charged with the responsibility of recommending basic policy programs for the District.

At the time of Mr. Cook's retirement from the District Board, his colleagues unanimously adopted a resolution of commendation which stated in part:

"Through his sound judgment, his firm grasp of the problems at hand and his undeviating devotion to the public welfare, he gave immeasurable assistance in molding the policies of the District throughout the critical period when the Colorado River Aqueduct was under construction and during the early days of operation, and

"He rendered a public service of incalculable value to the people of Long Beach and to all of the people of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California."

Unity of Action Pledged at Report of Progress Meeting

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Water Committee, which worked effectively in support of Proposition "W", and who is a Past President of the Colorado River Association, was Chairman of the Day.

He issued a powerful appeal to the people of Southern California to continue to present a united front in seeking the solutions to the many water problems confronting this area. He told the meeting that "unity of action and mutual trust on the part of all of our communities and people in Southern California has brought us our life-giving water from the Colorado River. That same unity and trust will enable us to go forward with confidence and solve the problems of the future as we have those of the past."

Principal speakers on the program were Mayor Norris Poulson, of Los Angeles, District Board Chairman Joseph Jensen, Robert B. Diemer District General Manager and Chief Engineer, James H. Howard, Special Counsel for the District, and Director and Board Secretary Fred A. Heilbron.

Director Heilbron, who is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Water Authority as well as Secretary of the District Board, strongly emphasized the need for united thought and action on the part of all of the communities and people of Southern California as the only means of protecting our present and developing future supplies of water.

Speaking extemporaneously, Mr. Heilbron forcefully reviewed the progress

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For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed February, 1958 covering District operations for January, 1958).

Colorado River—The water surface of Lake Mead dropped 6.60 feet to elevation 1170.95 feet above sea level, and usable storage decreased 850,000 acre-feet to 20,013,000 acre-feet on January 31. The discharge at Hoover Dam during the month averaged 20,100 cubic feet per second as compared with 17,560 in December 1957.

Pumping and Power—Hayfield plant delivered 25,183 acre-feet of water to Lake Mathews and San Diego Aqueduct during January. Pumping operations were on a two-pump basis from the first of the month to January 22 and on a three-pump basis from January 25 to the end of the month. The District's power system was in parallel with the Edison, Parker-Davis and Hoover power plant systems throughout the month. The District's share of Parker energy was 37,272,376 kwhrs, all of which was used by the District. Peak deliveries to and from Edison Company were 154,000 kw and 10,000 kw respectively.

Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant—Colorado River water was softened from 364 to 126 ppm of hardness at an average rate of 191 cfs during January. Daily rate of flow varied from a maximum of 246 cfs to a minimum of 147 cfs. A total of 11,537 acre-feet of water was treated during January.

Construction — Construction work on the distribution system progressed as follows: Schedules 56SC and 57SC (Middle Feeder) contract was accepted as complete on January 23, 1598; Schedules 58SC and 59SC (Middle Feeder) contract will be completed by February 3, 1958; Schedule 59A-P (Middle Feeder) contract completion date February 14, 1958; Schedule 62P (Culver City Lateral) contract is 42 percent complete; Schedules 63P and 64P (Culver City Lateral) contract is 73 percent complete.

Pumping Plant Expansion—The contract on installation of Pumping Unit 6 is 88 percent complete; contract on Pump Delivery Line No. 3 is 35 percent complete.

Work on the combined contracts on the siphons—Main Aqueduct—Earp to Whitewater—is 30 percent complete.

Purchasing — Total expenditures of $120,336 covered 438 purchase orders and 9 agreements.

District officials and civic leaders propose a toast (with water) at a "Report of Progress" luncheon held at the Statler Hotel on February 20. Most of the speakers at the meeting are shown above. Left to right are, Mr. Preston Hotchkis, General Chairman of the Southland Water Committee during the Proposition "W" campaign, who served as Chairman of the Day, District Board Chairman Joseph Jensen, Mayor Norris Poulson, of Los Angeles, District General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, and Board Secretary Fred A. Heilbron, who is also Chairman of the Board of the San Diego County Water Authority. Not shown in this photo is Special Counsel James H. Howard, who was also one of the speakers.

Report of Progress Meeting

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made thus far in Southland water development through a united front on the part of all of our citizens.

Mr. Hotchkis, in introducing Mayor Poulson, reminded the audience of the courageous and effective service rendered by Mr. Poulson in the protection of our Colorado River water when he was a member of Congress.

"As a member of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Mr. Poulson was a leader in the successful legislative battle to prevent passage of the Central Arizona Project Bill which seriously threatened our fair share of Colorado River water," Mr. Hotchkis pointed out.

Mayor Poulson described the huge population and industrial growth that has brought Southern California to its present size and also commended the unity of action, purpose, faith and trust among the widely separated communities which have enabled them to win their objectives in Colorado River water development.

He said that Southern California is destined to be the great population, industrial and cultural center of America but that this cannot happen without adequate water supplies. He told the meeting "we cannot shirk our destiny."

Chairman Jensen, speaking on "Water for Today and Tomorrow", said that since 1952 the Metropolitan Water District has been pushing forward a program to bring the Colorado River Aqueduct to its full planned delivery capacity and that this work will be completed in 1960.

"It is important for us to bear in mind that the cities and areas now in the Metropolitan Water District have a water supply sufficient to fully meet our present needs—and our needs in the years right ahead of us—while we plan and work to take the next long step to develop still another water supply to meet the people's future requirements," Mr. Jensen stated.

"For the past several years studies have been carried forward by the State Department of Water Resources on the Feather River Project. It is the first of a number of large water projects contemplated in the California Water Plan

"While plans and preliminary work are going forward on the Feather River Project, there has repeatedly come the urgent suggestion from some of our neighbors in Northern and Central California that studies be set under way on a second water supply project. This project has frequently been identified as the Eel River Project. The District Board of Directors feels that there is merit in this suggestion. Accordingly the District Board, in a recent letter addressed to Governor Knight, has recommended that the State Department of Water Resources include funds in its water budget to carry forward a thorough study of an Eel River project with a Coast route to Southern California. This is not suggested as a substitute for the Feather River Project but as a second project to be considered in addition to the Feather River system," Mr. Jensen declared.

General Manager and Chief Engineer Diemer spoke briefly on the history of the Aqueduct and presented a report of progress on the huge aqueduct expansion program now under way. He stated in part:

"The aqueduct in its first development was built to its full ultimate capacity in most of its features. All tunnels, concrete lined canals and covered conduits were built full size during the first construction period. So were many of the inverted siphons and many miles of distribution lines. Other sections were

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Unsoftened Water Deliveries In January Up Sixty Percent

During January of this year the Metropolitan Water District delivered 60.4 percent more unsoftened water than during the same month last year, it is shown in the February report of the General Manager and Chief Engineer. Softened water sales for the same period showed an increase of 11 percent over last year.

The reason for the increase was that the District was able to deliver large quantities of unsoftened water (11,000 acre-feet) to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District for underground replenishment.

This was made possible when the new middle feeder was put into service as a raw water delivery line. This line extends from a point on the upper feeder near La Verne to Garvey Reservoir in Monterey Park. The two delivery points for the Flood Control District are located at the San Gabriel River and at Alhambra Wash. The MWD is continuing to deliver water to the Flood Control District at the rate of 300 cubic feet per second.

A total of 36,150 acre-feet of Colorado River water was delivered in January as compared with 25,616 acre-feet for January of last year. Combining softened and unsoftened water sales, this shows an average increase of 41.1 percent.

Special Counsel James H. Howard, who spoke at the Statler luncheon on the subject of the Supreme Court suit—Arizona vs. California.

This makes 'em legal. District Controller A. W. (Mac) McKinlay is shown signing some of the $18,000,000 in Waterworks Bonds which were sold to Bankers Trust Company and Harris Trust Company. Looking on are Don A. Yapp and Laureate White, both members of the Controller's office.

Report of Progress Meeting

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built to half their ultimate capacity. The five aqueduct pumping plant buildings were built to half their ultimate size and were equipped with three of their ultimate nine pumping units required to pump the water more than 1600 feet in elevation over the mountain barriers between the River and the Coastal Plain.

"During the first fiscal year the aqueduct was in operation, July 1, 1941 to June 30, 1942, the District delivered approximately 16,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water to its constituent cities and areas. This is equivalent to a one-pump flow for less than two months. In the last fiscal year of 1956-57, the District delivered 543,700 acre-feet, or a 4-pump flow for most of the year—35 times as much as in 1941," he pointed out.

"To meet this great and growing need for more and more Colorado River water in our District homes and industries, a major expansion program was launched in 1952. The expediting of that building program was assured in June of 1956 when the people approved Proposition "W" by an overwhelming ratio of better than eleven to one.

"The District's aqueduct expansion program calls for the investment of more than $200,000,000. This means that when the aqueduct has been brought to full delivery capacity it will represent a capital investment of about $500,000,000—and most of this investment was made with 1930 and 1940 dollars," Mr. Diemer declared.

"A large part of the new expansion work already has been completed. Up to date, $100,000,000 have been spent and $40,000,000 in new work is under contract. Contracts soon to be let total about $60,000,000. The whole program is scheduled for completion in 1960.

"Expansion of the Metropolitan aqueduct system to its full planned capacity will provide all the service area of the Metropolitan Water District with a dependable water supply during the years while we are planning and building the works required to bring us a fair share of surplus water from the Feather River and other state water projects", Mr. Diemer concluded.

Special Counsel Howard gave a report on the present Supreme Court suit over water rights on the Colorado River. In this suit Arizona is seeking to restrict California to the use of 4,400,000 acre-feet of water per year, less certain evaporation losses. California's rights for water supply projects now in being aggregate 5,362,000 acre-feet annually, he stated. The suit, which is being heard by Special Master Simon Rifkind in San Francisco, is presently in recess. The following is an excerpt from Mr. Howard's statement:

"The evidence now before the Court shows that the water available for use in the Lower Basin of the Colorado River will barely sustain the uses now in existence and in the process of diligent development. California does not seek water in addition to that evidenced by its early appropriations and contracts made under the Boulder Canyon Project Act; nor do we seek to take water away

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Culver City Lateral to Be Completed This Summer

Construction work on the Culver City Lateral, which will deliver Colorado River water to Culver City and adjacent areas, is scheduled to be completed on or about July 31, 1958.

This line extends from the Palos Verdes Feeder at 57th Street and Fortuna westerly through Culver City and ends at the Charnock Wells near Ocean Park Avenue and Sawtelle Boulevard, a distance of about 11.5 miles. It is being constructed of 48-inch precast concrete pipe.

The easterly seven and one-half miles of the new line is approximately 65 per cent complete and the westerly four miles is 99 per cent complete. (See photo on Page One).

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE

William S. Merrithew—25 Years of Service

William S. Merrithew became eligible for his 25-year service pin on February 10, 1958. He received his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the California Institute of Technology in 1931, and started to work for the District on surveys for main aqueduct construction roads in February, 1933. For the next two years he was engaged in field surveys, inspection work and office engineering on the construction of roads, canals, conduits and tunnels.

In 1935, Bill was engaged as an Inspector on the construction of the Pasadena tunnel on the Distribution System and later became an Inspector and Office Engineer on the construction of Lake Mathews dam, dike and appurtenant works for the reservoir. Following completion of this project he worked in the Operation and Maintenance Division; he was Resident Engineer on the construction of the West Basin Feeder and worked in the Los Angeles office on the design of the expansion of the La Verne Softening Plant and also of Garvey Reservoir. He was Resident Engineer in responsible charge of the construction of Garvey Reservoir, completed in 1955. He then was made Senior Engineer in charge of the Distribution System.

In his present capacity as Distribution Engineer, Bill now has overall charge of the operation and maintenance of the entire Distribution System.

Both "Matt" Ballinger and "Chuck" Morrison received gifts of money from their fellow employees as wedding gifts recently. Here "Matt" is shown with a pile of coins and part of the group that presented them. Looking on, left to right, are Owen Wilson, Cyriald Martin, James Hale, Otto Wittman, Roger Sutton, Gilbert Mares, Jack Logan and Fred Ferguson.

Report of Progress

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from any existing project. The reverse is not true. Arizona seeks to establish right to water for future use, particularly, for the Central Arizona Project, and, if successful, would deprive California agencies of the use of water upon which we have relied for the past 30 years, and, on the strength of which we have invested and are continuing to invest hundreds of millions of dollars—not to mention the economic development, and private and public expenditures made in reliance on the availability of that water. The tendency of the Court in interstate water right cases has been to protect existing uses and economic developments; a fact from which we derive some comfort," Mr. Howard stated.

"Personally, I feel that the record is now in very good shape. In appearing before the Supreme Court, the States of the Union are looked upon as quasi-sovereigns. Principles of law which would, no doubt, be considered controlling as between private litigants may not be treated with the same rigidity in an interstate case. However, without attempting to speak with certainty, I firmly believe that our case is a good one and that our long-standing rights to use of the waters of the Colorado River will be sustained by the Court," Mr. Howard said.

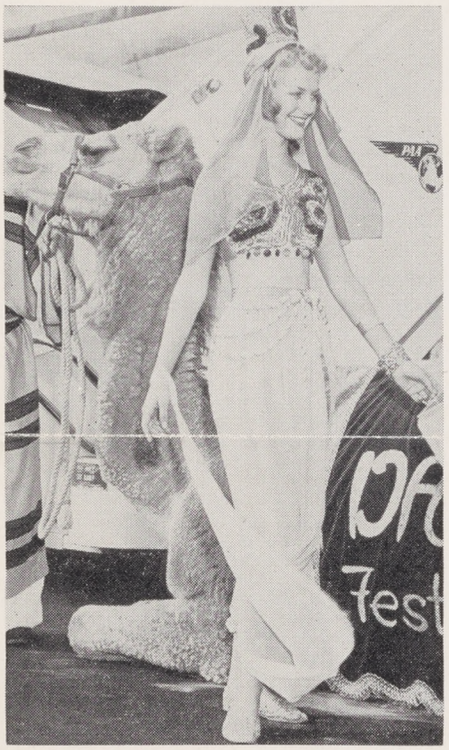
Direction Heilbron concluded the speaking program by a review of the civic planning and work that has provided water supplies to meet the growing needs of the San Diego area.

He said that the San Diego territory has more than quadrupled its assessed valuation since Colorado River water has been brought to that area through the Metropolitan Water District system. Without this Colorado River water, this growth and increased wealth would not have been possible, he stated.

Mr. Heilbron declared "only by the united efforts of all parts of Southern California can we hope to obtain additional water supplies that will be required to meet our future needs."

"United we stand for an orderly development of the new water supplies we will need in the years ahead, and divided we fall," Mr. Heilbron concluded.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Lovely Paulette Adams, daughter of Ralph and Evelyn Adams, poses prettily in front of a "Ship of the Desert" at the recent Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival where she served as one of the Princesses. Paulette was selected as "Miss Coachella Valley".

Members of the Board of Directors and District employees have welcomed back on the job Controller Albert W. McKinlay, who for several months has been seriously ill in the hospital and at his home.

He returned to his desk in time to sign his name to 18,000 MWD bonds representing a recent $18,000,000 District bond sale.

* * *

Madison C. "Matt" Ballinger, Junior Draftsman, and Miss Annette Marie Schuhmann, of La Verne, became man and wife on February 1. They were married in the First Baptist Church of Covina and are now making their home in Pomona. Fellow employees of Matt presented him with a gift of money.

* * *

Charles E. "Chuck" Morrison, Utility Clerk in the Los Angeles office is also a recent bridegroom. He was married to Shirley Jean Gott of Pomona, on January 26. The ceremony took place at the Evangelist United Brethern Church in Pomona. Chuck received a gift of money from his District friends.

Robert J. Williams, Senior Draftsman, and his wife, Patricia, are the proud parents of a son born on February 18 at Rose Hospital in Los Angeles. The young man weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces, measured 21½ inches in length and has been named Robert John.

* * *

Rufus Fee, Public Relations Representative, is up and about following a recent illness. He was in Victory Hospital in North Hollywood and then convalesced at his home. He is now feeling much better and is back on the job.

* * *

Earl Moore, Patrolman, has been transferred from Hayfield Pumping Plant to Copper Basin Reservoir. Prior to his leaving, the ladies at Hayfield held a pot luck dinner in his honor. He has been replaced at Hayfield by his brother, Lawrence.

Frank Convey, Utility Man at Iron Mountain, is back on the job after an illness of three months. He spent several weeks in the Loma Linda Hospital as a result of heart trouble.

* * *

W. T. Griffey, Maintenance Mechanic on Aqueduct maintenance, an expert in the art of square dancing, is now holding classes on the finer points of this popular form of amusement. The classes will be held every Monday night in the Recreation Hall at Iron Mountain Pumping Plant.

* * *

Susan Walters, daughter of Tom and Alice Walters, has been named "Miss Needles Airport" following a contest among the young ladies of that area. She is a Senior at Needles High School. Tom is a Mechanic on Aqueduct maintenance.

District friends of "Chuck" Morrison and "Matt" Ballinger, threw a stag party for the two prospective bridegrooms at the Theater Mart on January 24. Both of the fellows thought the party was for the other so the surprise was complete. Here the group poses on a stairway. From top to bottom, in the row nearest the railing are Jimmy Hoschouer, Benny Lamb, Al Rupert, Ed Slavin, "Chuck" Morrison, Ray Kirkby, Frank Aranda, Fernand Landemaine and Dave Tisdale. In the middle row, from the top are Cyriald Martin, "Matt" Ballinger, Jerry Pigg, Don Weirman and Bob Williams. In the third row are Francis Jabson, James Hale and Roger Sutton.